

BYRAM TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

MINUTES, AUGUST 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Chairman Ray Bonker, Scott Olson, Joe Sabatini, Bill Schilling, Andy Kimm, John Morytko, Michelle Rehse, Ben Spinelli of Spinelli & Pinto and Cindy Church.

Closed Session 7:31 p.m. (see separate minutes)

Open Session 7:55 p.m.

Approval of June 13th minutes- John made a motion, seconded by Scott to approve the closed and open minutes for both dates. All in favor.

Open Space Financial Report – Joe reported that there is \$417,832.75 in the local open space trust fund. In the reserve for debt service there is \$388,561.77. We have a Planning Incentive Grant balance of \$415,162.

Award of Well Study – A well study will be done at Tamarack Park within the next couple months to determine the best location for a well.

Tamarack Park

- Joe explained that Cory Stoner will not be accepting the project at Tamarack Park. There are sections on the field that are bare and still need attention from the contractor. Joe anticipates opening the park in the spring of 2017.
- The gates have been installed at Tamarack Park and a sign has also been ordered that will be installed at the entrance of the park.
- Spinelli & Pinto are working on a draft press release about the park. The Open Space Committee would like to see this sent out in the spring before the opening of the park.

Forest Management Plan - This project is to find an approved NJ Forester to work with the Township to manage their woodland resources. Ben Spinelli explained that they have drafted a RFQ for the Township Community Forester to complete. Joe thinks that is still need some work and will work with Ben on this.

Environmental Commission Update - Michelle explained that there was no meeting in July do to vacations. At the June meeting the Environmental Commission was happy hear that work will be done with funding from the grant to update the Townships website. The Environmental Commission is also implementing a spreadsheet to document trail progress and work done by the volunteers.

Correspondence and Updates

- The Highlands Open Space Partnership Program Application will be filed on the Townships behalf by Spinelli & Pinto.
- The Open Space Committee was happy to hear that the Townsjip Council passed the Deer Hunt resolution.

New Business – Joe and Scott both attended the Sussex County Open Space meeting.

Adjourn: 8:58 p.m. Motion by Scott, second by Bill. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.